

**To:** Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]  
**From:** U.S. EPA Media Relations  
**Sent:** Tue 8/18/2015 11:25:23 PM  
**Subject:** EPA Announces U.S. Department of the Interior to Lead Independent Review of Gold King Mine Release

**CONTACT:**  
[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 18, 2015

## **EPA Announces U.S. Department of the Interior to Lead Independent Review of Gold King Mine Release**

*Review to include analysis of the cause of release, contractor activities and lessons learned for use on ongoing and planned projects*

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) will lead an independent assessment of the factors that led to the Gold King Mine incident on August 5, 2015, in Colorado that affected the Animas and San Juan rivers. The assessment begins today, Tuesday, August 18, and it is anticipated that DOI will provide the assessment report to EPA and the public within 60 days.

The goal of DOI's independent review is to provide EPA with an analysis of the incident that took place at Gold King Mine, including the contributing causes.

Details about the independent review will be released by DOI when they become available.

In addition to the independent review, EPA is conducting its own internal technical examination of the incident. Both reviews will help inform ongoing and planned site assessments, investigations, and construction or removal projects.

For additional information on the response to the Gold King Mine release [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

R219

If you would rather not receive future communications from Environmental Protection Agency, let us know by clicking [here](#).  
Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460 United States